

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A composite material, comprising:

a cementitious matrix; and

cellulose fibers incorporated into the cementitious matrix, wherein the cellulose fibers comprise a blend of bleached and unbleached cellulose fibers and wherein the bleached cellulose fibers comprise greater than about 5% and less than about 50% of the total cellulose fibers incorporated into the matrix.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The composite material of claim 1, wherein the bleached cellulose fibers comprise between about 5%-25% of the total cellulose fibers incorporated into the matrix.

4. (Original) The composite material of claim 1, wherein the bleached cellulose fibers have an average Kappa number of less than or equal to about 10.

5. (Original) The composite material of claim 1, wherein the bleached cellulose fibers comprise fibers from species selected from the group consisting of Douglas fir, hemlock, spruce, southern yellow pines, kenaf and redwood.

6. (Original) The composite material of claim 1,
wherein the bleached cellulose fibers comprise fibers of *P.*
Radiata pine.

7. (Original) The composite material of claim 1,
wherein the unbleached cellulose fibers comprise fibers
from species selected from the group consisting of Douglass
fir, hemlock, white fir, spruce, southern pine, kenaf and
redwood.

8. (Original) The composite material of claim 1,
wherein the bleached and unbleached cellulose fibers
comprise about 0.5%-20% by weight of the composite
material.

9. (Original) The composite material of claim 1,
wherein the bleached and unbleached cellulose fibers
comprise cellulose fibers having an average fiber length of
between about 1 mm to 3.5 mm.

10. (Original) The composite material of claim 1,
wherein the modulus of rupture (MOR) of the composite
material is substantially equal to or greater than the MOR
of an equivalent composite material reinforced with
unbleached, premium grade cellulose fibers.

11. (Original) The composite material of claim 1,
wherein the toughness energy of the composite material is
substantially equal to or greater than the toughness energy

of an equivalent composite material reinforced with unbleached, premium grade cellulose fibers.

12.-24. (Canceled)

25. (Withdrawn) A composite material, comprising:
a cementitious matrix;
a first portion of cellulose fibers having a Kappa number of less than or equal to about 10; and
a second portion of standard grade cellulose fibers having a Kappa number of greater than about 10.

26. (Withdrawn) The composite material of claim 25, wherein the first portion of cellulose fibers comprises premium grade cellulose fibers.

27. (Withdrawn) The composite material of claim 25, wherein the first portion of the cellulose fibers comprises less than about 50% by weight of the total amount of the two portions of cellulose fibers combined.